

Amendments to the Specification

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

Please replace paragraph [00236] with the following amended paragraph:

[00236] If a handpiece 32 or 33 is attached to the control console 36, as part of system definition step 804, microprocessor 518 retrieves and stores the data contained in the handpiece NOVRAM 72 and EEPROM 74. This data retrieval and storage is performed with the aid of the instructions contained in the NOVRAM communicator and EEPROM communicator modules 784 and 786, respectively. This data is forwarded to microprocessor 518 in the form of HP_REC signals.

Please replace paragraph [00254] with the following amended paragraph:

[00254] In the abbreviated form of step 804, microprocessor reviews the signals presented to it to determine if the state of any of the signals has changed. As part of this review, microprocessor 518 reads the header data contained in the NOVRAMs 72 of the handpieces attached to the control console 36. A comparison with the stored header data revealing that the header data has not changed is interpreted as an indication that the same handpieces are still attached to the control console 36. Changes in the header data are interpreted as an indication that a new handpiece has been attached to the control console 36. If this latter condition exists, microprocessor 518 reads and stores, ~~reads~~ the encyclopedia data for the handpiece.